

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WELLIN 00924 150517Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04

NSC-05 SS-15 ACDA-07 /093 W

-----150526Z 033983 /13

P R 150333Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2854

INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC

COMIDEASTFOR

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 0924

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, XO, NZ

SUBJECT: DEMILITARIZATION OF INDIAN OCEAN

REF: PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE, MARCH 9, 1977

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 WELLIN 00924 150517Z

1. TRANSCRIPT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE OF MARCH 9 INCLUDES COMMENT, IN CONTEXT OF RESPONSE ON ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS, THAT USG QUOTE HAS ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE INDIAN OCEAN BE COMPLETELY DEMILITARIZED. UNQUOTE.

2. PRIME MINISTER MULDOON WAS QUERIED MARCH 14, AT

REGULAR MONDAY PRESS CONFERENCE, ABOUT PRESIDENT'S COMMENT AND IMPLICATIONS USG'S PROPOSAL MAY HOLD FOR NEW ZEALAND'S SECURITY INTERESTS. PRIME MINISTER REPLIED THAT HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE PROPOSAL.

3. WHILE MILITARY SITUATION IN INDIAN OCEAN IS, OF COURSE, OF FAR GREATER IMPORTANCE TO IMMEDIATE LITTORAL STATES, IT IS NONETHELESS A SIGNIFICANT SECURITY CONCERN OF NEW ZEALAND. PM MULDOON HAS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS CITED SOVIET NAVY ACTIVITIES AND FORCE BUILD-UP IN INDIAN OCEAN AS LEGITIMATE DEFENSE CONCERN OF NEW ZEALAND. REJUVENATED NEW ZEALAND PARTICIPATION IN ANZUS AND INCREASED DOMESTIC FOCUS ON NATION'S DEFENSE NEEDS HAVE BEEN, JUSTIFIED, IN PART, BY MULDOON'S GOVERNMENT ON BASIS OF SOVIET INDIAN OCEAN/SOUTH PACIFIC ACTIVITIES.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED AND HELPFUL IF DEPARTMENT COULD PROVIDE EMBASSY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH WE MIGHT USE IN INFORMING PM MULDOON OF USG PROPOSAL.

SELDEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TROOP DEPLOYMENT, PRESS CONFERENCES, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977WELLIN00924  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770087-1210  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** WELLINGTON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770356/aaaabxrx.tel  
**Line Count:** 84  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 91fb80b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3098571  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEMILITARIZATION OF INDIAN OCEAN  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PARM, XO, NZ, US, (CARTER, JIMMY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/91fb80b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009